Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 04763 111447Z ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 OIC-02 EUR-12 /068 W

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R 111320Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3428 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL ABIDJAN 4763

FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND MAYNES

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, FS, XA

SUBJ: COORDINATION WITH WESTERN GOVERNMENTS ON MAPUTO CONFERENCE

REF: A STATE 106155, B. USUN 1436, C. STATE 91898

- 1. APPRECIATE OPPORUTNITY TO COMMENT ON GUIDELINES PROPOSED IN REFTEL. WE AGREE IT IS ESSENTIAL WE COORDINATE OUR POSITION WITH OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS OF SECURITY COUNCIL--A POSITION WE HAVE MADE CLEAR FROM THE MOMENT WE INFORMED OTHERS OF OUR DECISION TO GO TO MAPUTO.
- 2. POSITION OUTLINED IN REFTEL SEEMS MORE SENSIBLE COURSE AT THIS POINT. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, FROM REF (B) THAT: (A) WE HAVE NO CLEAR INFORMATION ON WHAT MAPUTO ATMOSPHERE WILL BE; (B) THE AFRICAN GROUP IN NEW YORK HAS NOT FOCUSED ON TEXT OF MAPUTO DECLARATION; (C) WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT FORM NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TEXT WILL TAKE. MOREOVER, WESTERN COUNTRIES HAVE STILL BEEN UNABLE TO DISCUSS WITH SALIM AND KAMANA, RE REF (C), DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING CALLS FOR ACTION IN THE DECLARATION WHIC WILL COMPLICATE PEACE EFFORTS IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 04763 111447Z

4. IN LIGHT OF THESE FACTORS, WE BELIEVE THAT IN CONVEYING TO OTHER WESTERN DELEGATIONS POSITON OUTLINED IN REFTEL (A) WE SHOULD POINT OUT FLUIDITY OF SITUATION AND NEED FOR WESTERN DELEGATIONS TO MAPUTO TO ASSESS POSITION ON SPOT AND REACH COMMON RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH CAN THEN BE REFERRED TO HOME GOVERNMENTS FOR APPROVAL.

5. WE SHOULD ALSO POINT OUT TO OTHER WESTERN DELEGATIONS THAT MAPUTO OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY IN CORRIDORS FOR AGGRESSIVE WESTERN EFFORT TO EXPLAIN TO INFLUENTIAL GROUP OF AFRICAN LEADERS THE IMPORTANCE OF STEPS WE ARE TAKING IN NAMIBIA AND THE NECESSITY TO GIVE THIS LAST OPENING FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT EVERY CHANCE. CONFERENCE ALSO OFFERS OPPORUTNITY TO EXPLAIN IMPORTANCE OF CURRENT US-UK EFFORT ON RHODESIA.

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